



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In Re the Application Of

Samuel W. Putnam

Application Serial No: 10/021,587

Filed: December 12, 2001

For: Cable Pulling Apparatus

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA. 22313-1450

Mr. Sunil Singh,

Patent Examiner

Art Unit 3673

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AMENDMENT A

Dear Sir:

Responsive to the office action under date of March 17, 2003, please amend the above identified patent application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel claims 12 and 13 without prejudice or disclaimer.

Please amend claims 14-16 as follows:

MARKED-UP CLAIMS

14. (Amended) An apparatus for pulling a work load, comprising a cable for connection to the work load, [The apparatus of claim 12 wherein said at least one cable pulling member comprises] a pair of cable-pulling members disposed in linearly-aligned relationship with respect to each other on said cable in a slip fit and a pair of cable-gripping elements provided on said pair of cable-pulling members, respectively, [and] said cable-gripping elements disposed in in-line relationship with respect to each other on said cable, for alternately gripping, pulling and releasing said cable.

15. (Amended) The apparatus of claim 14 [wherein said cable-pulling device comprises] comprising a frame for receiving said pair of cable-pulling members and said pair of cable-gripping elements and wherein said pair of cable-pulling members each comprises a hydraulic cylinder carried by said frame and a piston slidably disposed in said hydraulic cylinder and connected to a corresponding one of said pair of cable-gripping elements, for alternately gripping, pulling and releasing said cable.

16. (Amended) A cable-pulling device for engaging a cable attached to a pipe bursting head and pulling the pipe bursting head against a pipe to facilitate bursting and replacing the

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